TRENDS

A 3275-2

ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICAN
RAILROADS

Office of Information
and Public Affairs
1920 L Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20036
(202) 835-9555

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, November 15, 1984 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended November 10 totaled an estimated 17.9 billion ton-miles, 2.6 percent above the corresponding week a year ago, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative traffic volume for the first 45 weeks of 1984 was an estimated 806.5 billion ton-miles, 11.9 percent higher than the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended November 10 totaled 389,339, down 0.5 percent from last year, but 0.6 percent above the preceding week of this year. Compared with last year, loadings were up 2.4 percent in the South and 4.8 percent in the West, but down 11.1 percent in the East.

Compared with the corresponding week of 1983, 14 of the 21 commodity groups declined. However, loadings of crushed stone, gravel and sand were up by 2,141 cars (19.1 percent) and other farm products increased by 1,737 cars (34.5 percent). Fourteen of the 21 commodity groups decreased from the preceding week of this year.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended November 3 totaled 58,654 cars, up 14.0 percent from the corresponding week of 1983, and 96,362 trailers and/or containers, 5.7 percent higher than last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 44 weeks of the year was 2,275,138 cars, 14.9 percent higher than last year, and 3,894,031 trailers and/or containers, up 13.2 percent.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 11/10/84:

	Loadings in Week ended November 10, 1984		Change from Corresponding Week 1983			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	27,416	D	2,346	7.9	D	2,066	7.5
Other farm products	6,770	I	1,737	34.5	I	985	14.5
Metallic ores	16,867	D	1,244	6.9	I	2,329	13.8
Coal	105,124	D	4,260	3.9	I	5,725	5.4
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	13,347	I	2,141	19.1	D	52	0.4
Nonmetallic minerals	10,989	D	256	2.3	D	1,410	12.8
Grain mill products	10,657	I	282	2.7	D	53	0.5
Food and kindred products	11,210	D	162	1.4	D	501	4.5
Primary forest products	13,502	D	1,532	10.2	D	19	0.1
Lumber and wood products except furniture	6,813	D	355	5.0	D	551	8.1
Pulp, paper and allied products	14,543	D	194	1.3	D	609	4.2
Chemicals and allied products	24,177	D	302	1.2	I	571	2.4
Petroleum products	4,925	I	240	5.1	I	407	8.3
Stone, clay and glass products	11,223	D	6	0.1	I	172	1.5
Coke	5,077	I	12	0.2	D	315	6.2
Metals and products	8,124	D	205	2.5	D	666	8.2
Motor vehicles and equipment	21,587	I	1,847	9.4	I	1,120	5.2
Waste and scrap materials	8,430	D	929	9.9	D	314	3.7
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	7,827	D	979	11.1	D	166	2.1
All other carloads	60,586	I	4,563	8.1	D	2,272	3.8
LCL traffic	145	D	116	44.4	D	48	33.1
Total Cars Loaded	389,339	D	2,064	0.5	I	2,267	0.6
Corresponding week of 1983	391,403						

	1984	1983	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (45 weeks)	17,806,843	16,402,496	I 8.6
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
44 weeks ended November 3	788.6	703.3	I 12.1
Week ended November 10	17.9	17.4	I 2.6
45 weeks cumulative	806.5	720.7	I 11.9

AARt-111584